

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

*Sub C1* 1. A DNA which encodes a desert hedgehog protein of human origin.

2. The DNA of claim 1, which contains a part or the whole of either the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:4 or its complementary nucleotide sequence.

3. The DNA of claim 1, which contains a part or the whole of either the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:5 or its complementary nucleotide sequence.

4. The DNA of claim 1, which contains a part or the whole of either the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:6 or its complementary nucleotide sequence.

5. The DNA of claim 1, wherein, based on the degeneracy of genetic codes, one or ~~ore~~ nucleotides are replaced with different nucleotides while conserving the encoding amino acid sequence.

*Sub 2* 6. The DNA of claim 1, which is inserted into an autonomously replicable vector.

7. The DNA of claim 1, which is introduced into an appropriate host.

8. A monoclonal antibody which recognizes a desert hedgehog protein of human origin.

9. The monoclonal antibody of claim 8, which additionally recognizes a Sonic hedgehog protein of human origin.

10. A hybridoma capable of producing a monoclonal antibody which recognizes a desert hedgehog protein of human origin.

Sub 11. A protein for producing a hedgehog protein which comprises allowing expression of a DNA that encodes a desert hedgehog protein of human origin, and collecting the generated hedgehog protein.

Sub 12. The process of claim 11, wherein the DNA is expressed through culturing of a transformant introduced with a DNA that encodes the hedgehog protein.

Sub 13. The process of claim 11, wherein the generated hedgehog protein is collected by salting out, dialysis, filtration, concentration, fractional precipitation, ion-exchange chromatography, gel filtration chromatography, adsorption chromatography, isoelectric focusing chromatography, hydrophobic chromatography, reversed phase chromatography, affinity chromatography, gel electrophoresis and/or isoelectric focusing gel electrophoresis.

Sub 14. The process of claim 11, wherein the generated hedgehog protein is collected through immunoaffinity

chromatography using a monoclonal antibody that recognizes a  
desert hedgehog protein of human origin.

15. A method for detecting a hedgehog protein which  
comprises bringing a monoclonal antibody which recognizes a  
desert hedgehog protein of human origin into contact with a  
sample, and detecting the hedgehog protein based on an immuno  
reaction.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the monoclonal  
antibody is labeled with a radioactive substance, enzyme  
and/or fluorescent substance.

add C5  
add 53  
add 76